

Moving Ahead: The Need for a Career and College-Ready Diploma

Proposed for the Class of 2016



Ready for Life, Careers, and Education

By the Numbers

84 Percent of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents ages 18+ support career and college-ready requirements

67 Percent of future Washington jobs will require some education beyond high school

45 States do a better job preparing students for college than Washington

45 States require more English classes than Washington

39 States require more social studies classes than Washington

36 States require more science classes than Washington

42 States have better college participation from low-income families than Washington

54 Percent of Washington high school graduates requiring remediation who enter community and technical colleges directly from high school

17 Million dollars of Washington State investment spent on college remediation annually

41 Percent of 2008 Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic high school graduates (respectively) enrolled in four-year college-ready coursework while in high school

All sources available on our website

The Washington State Board of Education High School Graduation Requirements

| Course | Class of 2013 Requirements | Class of 2016 Requirements* |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| English | 3 | 4 |
| Math | 3 | 3 |
| Science | 2 (1 Lab) | 3 (2 Labs) |
| Social Studies | 2.5 | 3 |
| Arts | 1 | 2** |
| Health and Fitness | 2 | 2*** |
| World Language | 0 | 2** |
| Occupational Education | 1 | 1 |
| Career Concentration | 0 | 2 |
| Electives | 5.5 | 2 |
| Total | 20 | 24 |

* All changes with fiscal impact must be approved and authorized by the Legislature. **Based on the high school and beyond plan, the following substitutions may be made: Arts—1 credit; World Languages—2 credits. Note: Up to 2 credits could be waived by local administrators for students who have attempted 24 credits. Students must earn the designated credits in the mandatory subjects (English -4, math -3, science -3, social studies -3, art -1, health -.5, fitness -1.5, occupational education -1). *** Students must take 1.5 credits of fitness unless excused per statute 28A.230.050.

Our graduates deserve a diploma that prepares them for the next step in life, whether that path leads straight into a career, further training through apprenticeships or trades, or education at two or four-year colleges. The new requirements meet this benchmark, ensuring all students graduate **ready for life, ready for careers, and ready for education.**

What are the elements of success for our high school graduates?



Ready for Life: High school graduates who are responsible and engaged citizens in our society and our democracy, fully capable of making critical decisions and positive contributions to our community



Ready for Careers: High school graduates who have the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue any number of career pathways suitable to their own goals



Ready for Education: High school graduates who are prepared to enter two or four-year degree programs and apprenticeship and trade programs without the need for remediation



= The Building Blocks of Success



All Washington high school students will be automatically enrolled in coursework that gets them **Ready for Life, Ready for Careers, and Ready for Education.**